CATHOLIC · ACTION ·

Vol. XXVIII, No. 6 June, 1946

DISPLACED PERSONS

REV. PHILIP J. KENNEY

BISHOPS OF N.C.W.C. IN SESSION

THE LIVING WAGE

THE HEART OF CATHOLIC ACTION

EQUAL PROTECTION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

FAMILY WEEK OBSERVANCES

ASPECTS OF BRITISH CATHOLIC ACTION

"Bread . . .
A Holy Thing!"

A NATIONAL MONTHLY PUBLISHED BY THE
NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

JUNE, 1946

PAGE

Our Common Catholic Interests..... 3
"Bread . . . A Holy Thing!"

The Heart of Catholic Action..... 4
By Rev. Charles A. Hart, Ph.D.

Bishops of N.C.W.C. in Session..... 5

Displaced Persons 6
By Rev. Philip J. Kenney

Family Week Observances..... 8
By Rev. Edgar Schmiedeler, O.S.B.

Month by Month with the N.C.W.C.. 9

National Council Catholic Women.. 10
The "Old Dominion" and a New Diocesan Council — Gifts in the Name of Mary—Council Response to Call of Holy Father — With Our Nationals — An Aspect of British Catholic Action.

National Council Catholic Men..... 14
John W. Babcock Re-elected President of N.C.C.M.—Chosen Men: Part II of a Series — The Living Wage — Radio Schedule — Indecent Literature Doomed.

Legal Developments Affecting the Church 18
Equal Protection for School Children

The Book Shelf..... 19

Calendar of Scheduled Catholic Meetings and Events 19

The contents of CATHOLIC ACTION are fully indexed in the *Catholic Periodical Index.*

FACTS ABOUT THE
NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

"Over a manifold activity of the laity, carried on in various localities according to the needs of the times, is placed the National Catholic Welfare Conference, an organization which supplies a ready and well-adapted instrument for your episcopal ministry."—Pope Pius XII.

The National Catholic Welfare Conference was organized in September, 1919.

The N. C. W. C. is a common agency acting under the authority of the bishops to promote the welfare of the Catholics of the country.

It has for its incorporated purposes "unifying, coordinating and organizing the Catholic people of the United States in works of education, social welfare, immigrant aid and other activities."

It comprises the following departments and bureaus:

EXECUTIVE—Bureaus maintained: *Immigration, National Center Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Information, Publications, Business and Auditing, and* CATHOLIC ACTION, *monthly publication,* N. C. W. C.

YOUTH—Facilitates exchange of information regarding the philosophy, organization, and program-content of Catholic youth organizations; promotes the National Catholic Youth Council, the federating agency for all existing, approved Catholic youth groups; contacts and evaluates national governmental and non-governmental youth organizations and youth servicing organizations.

EDUCATION—Divisions: *Statistics and Information, Teacher Placement, Research Catholic Education, Library Service, and Inter-American Collaboration.*

PRESS—Serves the Catholic press in the United States and abroad with regular *news, features, editorial and pictorial services.*

SOCIAL ACTION—Covers the fields of *Industrial Relations, International Affairs, Civic Education, Social Welfare, Family Life, and Rural Life.*

LEGAL—Serves as a clearing house of information on federal, state and local legislation.

LAY ORGANIZATIONS—Includes the National Council of Catholic Men and the National Council of Catholic Women, which maintain at N. C. W. C. headquarters permanent representations in the interests of the Catholic laity. These councils function through some 7,000 affiliated societies—national, state, diocesan, district, local and parish; also through units of the councils in many of the dioceses.

The N. C. C. M. maintains at its national headquarters a *Catholic Evidence Bureau,* sponsors two weekly nationwide radio programs—the Catholic Hour over the National Broadcasting Company's Network, and the Hour of Faith over the American Broadcasting Company's Network—and conducts a Catholic Radio Bureau.

The N. C. C. W. maintains in Washington, D. C., the *National Catholic School of Social Service.*

CATHOLIC ACTION STUDY—Devoted to research and reports as to pronouncements, methods, programs and achievements in the work of Catholic Action at home and abroad.

The Conference is conducted by an administrative board composed of ten archbishops and bishops aided by seven assistant bishops.

Each department of the N. C. W. C. is administered by an episcopal chairman.

Through the general secretary, chief executive officer of the Conference, the reports of the departments and information on the general work of the headquarters' staff are sent regularly to the members of the administrative board.

The administrative bishops of the Conference report annually upon their work to the Holy See.

Annually at the general meeting of the bishops, detailed reports are submitted by the administrative bishops of the Conference and authorization secured for the work of the coming year.

No official action is taken by any N. C. W. C. department without authorization of its episcopal chairman.

No official action is taken in the name of the whole Conference without authorization and approval of the administrative board.

It is not the policy of the N. C. W. C. to create new organizations.

It helps, unifies, and leaves to their own fields those that already exist.

It aims to defend and advance the welfare both of the Catholic Church and of our beloved Country.

It seeks to inform the life of America of right fundamental principles of religion and morality.

It is a central clearing house of information regarding activities of Catholic men and women.

All that are helped may play their part in promoting the good work and in maintaining the common agency, the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

CATHOLIC ACTION records monthly the work of the Conference and its affiliated organizations. It presents our common needs and opportunities. Its special articles are helpful to every Catholic Organization and individual.

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CATHOLIC ACTION

"CATHOLIC ACTION consists not merely of the pursuits of personal Christian perfection, which is however before all others its first and greatest end, but it also consists of a true apostolate in which Catholics of every social class participate, coming thus to be united in thought and action around those centers of sound doctrine and multiple social activity, legitimately constituted and, as a result, aided and sustained by the authority of the bishops."

—Pope Pius XI.

Monthly Publication of the

NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

VOL. XXVIII, No. 6 JUNE, 1946

OUR COMMON CATHOLIC INTERESTS

"Bread . . . A Holy Thing!"

ON April 30 and May 1 the annual spring meeting of the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference was held in Washington, D. C. Among other matters considered was that of famine relief, and the following statement was given out. The names of the members of the Board, affixed to the statement, appear on page 9 of this issue of CATHOLIC ACTION. The complete text of the statement reads:

"Famine is killing millions of people. Its victims, weakened in body and in spirit, increase in number each day. We who know not the pangs of hunger must hearken to the pitiful cries of our brothers in Christ. Self-discipline and self-denial on our part will save countless lives. From our overflowing granaries, yea, from what we wantonly waste, we can do much to relieve their utter destitution. Bread must become for us a holy thing; for it means life to a multitude of God's children.

"Mindful of this dire need, the Bishops of our country are appealing to the faithful to give unstintingly in the campaign for Food for the Children of Europe and the Far East during the week, beginning on Mother's Day, May 12. We are confident that the response will be a fitting testimony of Christ-like love for our neighbors in need. Moreover, we earnestly urge our fellow Americans to heed the plea of our Government to release their reserve stores of wheat that the hungry may eat.

"Relief of hunger is indeed the pressing need of the moment. We know that the shortage of food is due in large measure to the terrible devastation wrought by war. Yet, thinking men will not limit their vision to this fact. They will look beyond to find deeper causes for the chaos that now afflicts suffering humanity.

"Europe's misery has been aggravated by moral and economic disorders that could have been prevented. Undue delay in reaching peace settlements has fostered instability and paralyzed reconstruction. Eastern or 'Bread' Europe has been artificially walled off from Western Europe. Multitudes of civilians and prisoners of war have been deported and degraded into forced labor unworthy of human beings. Occupying soldiery, living off the land, are consuming already depleted food stores. Great masses of unfortunate people have been stripped of their goods and then driven like cattle from their native soil into strange areas where they are homeless, helpless and friendless. Inevitably, famine breeds fear and unrest; and unrest jeopardizes the hope of peace for which mankind is longing.

"Justice cries out against these violations of the moral order. There can be no peace while they endure. Injustice is the helpmate of famine and their offspring is chaos. Order among men and nations can come only from the practice of justice and mercy in human relations. The moral order set down by the Maker of the Universe is the only charter given to men whereby they may find peace and security."

THE HEART OF CATHOLIC ACTION

Rev. Charles A. Hart

THE Catholic Actionist, by the solemn obligation of his baptism must be another Christ. The *signum configurativum*—sign of configuration—of St. Thomas, as the ultimate manifestation of the indelible mark of that new-life-giving sacrament, demands nothing less. To be an *alter Christus* —another Christ—is not asked only of the recipient of Holy Orders but is required of every member of Christ's Mystical Body. Only thus does the spiritual rebirth of the baptized make him so really and fully distinct from the pagan world as to fit him in some degree for participation in the priesthood of Jesus Christ. The Actionist must be of the mind and heart of Christ. But most of all must his be the heart of Christ. For it was of His heart that Jesus spoke when He invited us to learn of Him. It was not His perfect intellect or His omnipotence that He offered for imitation but His meek and humble heart. For we love better than we know, according to St. Thomas. And following very ancient tradition we consider the heart as the seat of love. The way of love, *via inclinationis*, of the great saint, actually reacts on the human intellect and compels it to rise to a relatively perfect act whereby it is able to know things not merely as members of a class, through abstract ideas, but to grasp the thing loved in all its individuality, as the intellect knows its own personal self. In a word, it sees the beauty of things. Thus is the lover attached to the beloved.

The heart of the Catholic Actionist must somehow be like that of the Heart of Him who is the source of that action. As Actionists, with all our energy we must cultivate that love of Christ—*caritas Christi*—for the objects of His action. Without charity in our work we are reminded that we are but sounding brass and tinkling cymbals—hollow and vacuous. Who has not known the Catholic Actionist who proceeds very laudably with most exact scientific knowledge, using with exquisite efficiency the most advanced and universally approved methods of modern science, and yet, with all these aids, conveying very little of the supernatural spirit of his high calling! But looked at with the eyes of love all God's creation, and particularly the human person, presents its hidden beauty to the Actionist, which he could not otherwise see. Thus comes that particular joy in labor which delights his soul and fills it with a zeal for ever greater accomplishment. For it is only with some degree of the Heart of Christ in our work that we are able to sustain our effort despite all discouraging ingratitude. Unless we love our neighbors for the supernatural reason that God loves them we shall find perseverance in our labor for them extremely difficult, if not impossible, over the years. With His human nature united to the divine, Jesus, the human exemplar, could look upon His fellow men with a love so great that He could mount a cross in sacrificial death for them.

This beautiful month of June is set aside in an especial manner for devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The almost incredible outpouring of graces which Jesus promised, through the mystic, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, to those devoted to Him in His Sacred Heart are now well known. They are the lavish promptings of a Heart that knows that unless His followers bring loving hearts to their labors in His behalf the fruit of their work is little indeed. Heart speaketh to heart in a language all its own. Reason must be brought to our work but it will not be enough, however necessary it may be. The greatest among the theologians and philosophers have recognized these limitations of reason. "Not in dialectics has it pleased God to save His people," declares the great St. Ambrose of Milan. Echoing him centuries later the French philosopher, Pascal, declared that the heart has reasons that reason cannot know. Nothing less than a constant inventory of his possessions in charity is required of the Actionist.

Sacred Heart of Catholic Action, make the hearts of us Actionists like unto Thine!

Bishops of N.C.W.C. in Session

THE annual spring meeting of the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference was held on April 30 and May 1, at Conference Headquarters, in Washington, D. C., attended by all but one of the members and assistant members. Archbishop John J. Mitty of San Francisco, chairman of the Department of Catholic Action Study, was absent because of attendance at ceremonies in Hawaii marking the centenary of the arrival of the first Catholic missionaries on the island of Maui.

The meeting was honored by the presence of two of the three recently named American Cardinals—Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, Chairman of the Board, and Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, its secretary.

This marked the first time since the organization of the N. C. W. C. (when His Eminence James Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore was its first and only president) that a Cardinal participated as a member of the Administrative Board of the Conference.

Three other Cardinals have served on the Administrative Board, but in each case prior to elevation to the rank of Prince of the Church. His Eminence Edward Cardinal Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, retired as chairman only last fall, just prior to his elevation, because of the rule limiting the length of consecutive service on the Board. The late Cardinal Hayes of New York served on the Administrative Committee of the National Catholic War Council, predecessor of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, but he was Bishop Patrick Hayes at the time. His Eminence Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, served as a member of the Administrative Committee (as the Board was known till 1935), N.C.W.C., for two years immediately preceding his elevation to the Cardinalate.

Members of the Administrative Board attending the meeting, in addition to the two Cardinals, were: Archbishops Richard J. Cushing of Boston, Chairman of the N.C.W.C. Youth Department; John Gregory Murray of St. Paul, Vice Chairman of the Board and Chairman of the Press Department; Joseph F. Rummel of New Orleans, Chairman of the Legal Department; and James H. Ryan of Omaha, Chairman of the Department of Education. Bishops Karl J. Alter of Toledo, Chairman of the Department of Social Action; John Mark Gannon of Erie, Treasurer of the Board; and John F. Noll of Fort Wayne, Chairman of the Department of Lay Organizations.

Appointments of Bishops to assist the members of the Administrative Board, made at last November's meeting, were announced in connection with this spring meeting and those designated, as follows, took part in the meeting:

Bishops Richard O. Gerow of Natchez, Assistant Bishop of the Youth Department; Thomas K. Gorman of Reno, Assistant Bishop of the Press Department; Bryan J. McEntegart of Ogdensburg, Assistant Bishop of the Legal Department; John F. O'Hara of Buffalo, Assistant Bishop of the Department of Catholic Action Study; Michael J. Ready of Columbus, Assistant Secretary; William A. Scully, Coadjutor Bishop of Albany and Assistant Bishop of the Department of Education; and Emmet M. Walsh of Charleston, Assistant Bishop of the Department of Lay Organizations.

Also present at the meeting were Msgr. Howard J. Carroll, General Secretary of the N.C.W.C.; the Rev. Paul F. Tanner, Assistant General Secretary; and the Rev. P. J. Kenney, Assistant to the General Secretary.

In a public statement issued at the conclusion of the meeting, the Bishops called upon the Catholics of the country to demonstrate their participation in the Mystical Body of Christ by continued aid in the relief of the famine-stricken peoples. "Famine breeds fear and unrest, and unrest jeopardizes the hope of peace for which mankind is longing," said the Bishops in their statement, the complete text of which appears on page 3 of this issue.

Cardinal Stritch, who is also Chairman of the Board of Trustees of War Relief Services—N. C. W. C., revealed the vast extent of the relief and welfare program set up in Europe and the Far East, stating that the "generosity of millions of Americans has been channeled speedily and directly to the war-torn and ravished nations of the world. War Relief Services is spread out like a vast protective network, linking the men and women of this country with their suffering neighbors on the other side of the world. At a time when the brutality and selfishness of war still echo on the horizon it is a marvelous thing to witness such a supreme example of Christian charity and brotherhood."

DISPLACED PERSONS

Rev. Philip J. Kenney

SO GREAT are the catastrophies of war and famine that have ravaged and withered Europe, and so accustomed have people become to news reports that abound in startling superlatives, that it is now an unusual tragedy indeed that will focus on Europe the attention of the world at large.

Thus it is that there is but slight recognition of the plight of 1,400,000 Displaced Persons now stranded in Germany and Austria. Their story is one of pathetic misfortune. Bitterly as they suffered during the long years of war, the armistice has brought them little relief. At an UNRRA Council meeting held in Washington on May 9, Director General Fiorello H. LaGuardia referred to the Displaced Persons situation as "an enormous stockpile of human misery." Stating that "in this unhappiness and misfortune there is a great deal of salvageable happiness," Mr. LaGuardia sounded a ringing challenge to the United Nations to give Displaced Persons worthy and effective consideration, and asked that conclusive action be taken "in the next 30 or 60 days."

Non-Repatriables

As the Allied Armies poured into the crumbling Reich, they were faced with the complex problem of more than 6,000,000 non-Germans who had been in Germany either as slave laborers or as political prisoners in concentration camps, or as refugees from Soviet-occupied countries. The Military began immediately the work of repatriation and, aided in due time by UNRRA, succeeded in returning by December, 1945, over 4,000,000 persons to their countries of origin. Other thousands have since been repatriated. The problem appears insuperable, however, in the case of those persons—and they will number between 300,000 and 400,000—who will eventually refuse repatriation. These unhappy persons feel that should they return to their native lands, they would be denied fundamental human rights and subjected to violent political reprisal. In this group are Lithuanians, Latvians, Estonians, Poles, Slovenes, Croatians, Slovakians, Jugoslavs, Hungarians, Rumanians and Ukrainians. Catholics will comprise a majority of these who rather than return to their homelands will seek to resettle elsewhere.

After the cessation of hostilities, those Displaced Persons who were nationals of western countries returned immediately to their native lands. News reports described Frenchmen, Dutch, Belgians and Norwegians so anxious to return that they did not wait for transportation, but immediately and joyfully set out on foot. Those, on the contrary, who remained in the camps and refused repatriation, were in large part citizens of countries presently controlled by Soviet Russia.

At the UNRRA Conference held at Atlantic City during March of this year, sharply conflicting attitudes were manifested in the discussion of continuance of UNRRA aid to Displaced Persons refusing repatriation. UNRRA would aid this group, it had been determined at a previous conference, for a period of six months, and the question would then be reconsidered. Russia and its satellite states protested vehemently that UNRRA should give no further assistance to "political refugees." Furthermore, they argued, in claiming jurisdiction over these persons, the occupation forces of the United States, Great Britain and France had assumed rights of the countries of which these persons were citizens.

Defending the right of Displaced Persons to refuse repatriation and to choose resettlement in other lands, the representative of Great Britain declared that his country would support the right of asylum. Other voices were heard in agreement, among them that of Doctor Castro of El Salvador, who stated:

(1) that no Displaced Person should be forced directly or indirectly to return to his own country;
(2) that no Displaced Person should be left without help or assistance because he refused to return to his country.

Finally a compromise was reached which allowed the countries of Eastern Europe more access in Displaced Persons' Camps. It was then agreed that UNRRA would continue to aid all Displaced Persons.

Meanwhile, the American State Department announced that the Displaced Persons' Camps in the American Zones would be discontinued as of September 1, with the exception of the few camps established for "persecuted persons." The announcement was particularly distressing as it meant that, with the exception of persecuted persons, the immense residual number at the time of discontinuance would have been thrust into

the wrecked economy of Germany, or otherwise forced to repatriate. Fortunately the United States reversed its position on April 23, announcing that Displaced Persons' Camps in the American Zones would not be closed until a United Nations agency assumed the tasks of repatriating those who remain in the camps, and resettling the non-repatriables. As yet, no intergovernmental body has been mandated to undertake this work.

Persons refusing repatriation were again the subject of bitter controversy on May 18 when the United Nations Special Committee on Refugees and Displaced Persons met in London. The Committee voted 10 to 6 to include "political emigres" under the heading of refugees in spite of determined Soviet opposition.

Resettlement

It is quite probable that Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, Australia, New Zealand and Canada will offer limited immigration. The United States, under a Presidential directive of December 22, 1945, arranged for an annual quota of 35,100 Displaced Persons, in other words, 90 per cent of the entire immigration quota for nationals of the countries concerned, including Germany. In this connection, James G. McDonald, former High Commissioner for Refugees, League of Nations, wrote in a Foreign Policy Association publication for November-December, 1945: "It is high time that there should be frank speaking about the failure of governments to deal worthily with the problem of the millions of innocent men, women and children displaced by the policies of the Nazis and by the war. Against the dark background of this indescribable tragedy, we should not hesitate to underline the sorry contrast between the noble sentiment so generously expressed by statesmen and the grossly inadequate actions of most governments. With a few notable exceptions, their actions have been characterized by hesitancy, procrastination, half-heartedness or negativism—and this precisely at a time when the situation has demanded forthright, wholehearted and generous actions. Candor requires that we admit that governments, when dealing with refugees, have almost invariably taken the short view of national self-interest and have ignored or played down the interests of mankind."

And Pope Pius XII, in an audience granted to a group of United States immigration officials on March 14, called for the exercise of Christian charity in the restriction on foreign immigration. "It is not too much to expect," the Pope declared, "that in the process of (immigration) restriction, Christian charity and the sense of human solidarity existing among all men, children of the one eternal God and Father, will not be forgotten. . . . Immigration can help in solving one of Europe's saddest problems, a problem which is being aggravated by the enforced transfer of helpless, innocent populations."

War Relief Services

While the Armies of Occupation, the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees and UNRRA are attempting to eliminate the confusion and resolve the difficulties which becloud this gnarled problem, American voluntary relief agencies are rendering highly valuable services in Displaced Persons' Camps. Representatives of War Relief Services—N.C.W.C. have visited nearly 300 camps, providing educational, recreational and occupational materials, as well as supplementary food supplies. Under the direction of the Rev. Richard Flynn of New York, six American laymen, aided by personnel of indigenous agencies, are carrying out this War Relief Services program, and are giving particular attention to the work of screening and granting of visas to Displaced Persons at the American Consulates in Frankfort, Stuttgart, Munich and Berlin.

The Displaced Persons' situation will become critical when UNRRA aid ceases in December, 1946. It is imperative that the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations assume the responsibilities hitherto divided between UNRRA and the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees. It is equally imperative that the properly mandated UN Committee be given the authority, funds and transportation facilities, as well as the cooperation of countries where immigration is feasible, for effective handling of a stupendous human problem, the repatriation or resettlement of over a million human beings who are wasting away in the misery of exile and insecurity.

Whatever comes of UN efforts, American voluntary relief agencies will continue to render all possible services in Displaced Persons' Camps. Let it not be forgotten that the great majority of the non-repatriable Displaced Persons are our co-religionists. Add this to the reasons why War Relief Services—N.C.W.C. must have the full measure of our support in months to come.

Following the arrival at American ports of those Displaced Persons who are Catholics, the Catholic Committee for Refugees, with offices at 265 West 14th Street, New York City, takes over the obligation of placement and future care. Long experienced in such work N.C.W.C. Bureau of Immigration workers have full charge of servicing at the steamship piers.

The SS. *Marine Flasher,* docking in New York on May 20, brought the first shipload of Displaced Persons to American shores.

Only the Christian charity urged by the Holy Father can speed a solution of what His Holiness terms "one of Europe's saddest problems."

FAMILY WEEK OBSERVANCES

ANOTHER National Family Week has slipped by. The observance extended this year from May 5 to 12. This was the fourth consecutive annual observance and, because it was the first since the close of the war, it was also the first during which entire American families generally were together for the occasion.

As in former years, considerable preparation had been made in advance for the "week." The group of scholars that constitute the National Catholic Conference on Family Life had met in midwinter to discuss outstanding problems on the family. Their deliberations had shortly thereafter been put into print so as to be available as source material to draw on for local conferences and institutes that were scheduled throughout the country for National Family Week. With this material available it was a relatively simple matter for groups to promote and prepare for practical and timely programs.

A great variety of activities were promoted, some in parishes, some in educational institutions, some on a community or diocesan-wide basis. A complete picture of all of these cannot be given; however, space will allow for a sampling.

Apparently the most common parish observance this year was family group Communion, and at these Masses in some parishes, a renewal of the marriage promise.

Another popular parish activity was the encouragement to circulate and read Catholic literature on marriage and the family, especially as an antidote to the harmful types of such literature disseminated today. Particularly well-received was *The Family Digest,* despite its youthfulness, already being distributed in quantities throughout the country.

In all parts of the country special programs were promoted by Diocesan Councils of Catholic Women. Among the more elaborate programs were those in the Dioceses of St. Augustine, Cleveland, Harrisburg (held on a Deanery basis) and in the Archdioceses of Milwaukee and Chicago. These conferences or institutes generally extended over several days. In the case of the Archdiocese of Chicago, a series of twenty-two meetings was held over a period of as many days.

In the Diocese of St. Cloud, National Family Week was anticipated. A three-day conference on the family was held at the end of March, sponsored jointly by the St. Cloud Council of Knights of Columbus, and the Stella Maris Council of the Daughters of Isabella. Three Bishops participated in the sessions—Most Rev. Joseph F. Busch, Most Rev. Francis J. Schenk, and Most Rev. Peter W. Bartholome.

Many Catholic colleges also sponsored conferences or institutes on family life, in some cases holding these before National Family Week, because it came too near the end of the school year. Perhaps the most elaborate program—an institute of six days—was sponsored by Marygrove College of Detroit for its students, their parents, the alumnae and friends.

A number of youth groups also devoted special attention to National Family Week. Thus Very Rev. Msgr. James A. McNulty, director of the Catholic Youth Organizations of the Archdiocese of Newark, assigned as the topic for the Archdiocesan C.Y.O. Oratorical Contest, "Family Life, The Bulwark of Church and State." The Newark organization also sponsored a half-hour radio program on the opening Sunday of the Week.

Many such activities, inaugurated in past years, have led to continuing programs, and in one diocese, Toledo, eight different family life programs were held in as many sections of the diocese, bringing at least one meeting within easy reach of every member of the diocese.

One especially significant letter, from the Erie Diocesan Chancery Office to the Family Life Bureau, requested that copies of the addresses given at the last convention of the National Catholic Conference on Family Life be sent to all the priests of the Diocese, to serve as the basis for diocesan conferences for the clergy.

A particularly happy feature of National Family Week was the announcement of the "Catholic Mother of the Year." The honor this year went to Mrs. Joy Seth Hurd of Cleveland, president of the Cleveland Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. A mother of 15 children, Mrs. Hurd has yet found time for activity in more than a dozen church and community organizations. The usual award, a medal from the Shrine of Christian Motherhood at St. Augustine, Fla., was presented her by her pastor, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph J. Schmit, on Mother's Day. Mrs. Hurd would undoubtedly be the first to admit that there are large numbers of other "valiant" Christian mothers deserving of special honor. Undoubtedly it is her hope, too, as it is that of so many others, that the annual observance of Family Week will do much to give us still more such mothers.—*Rev. Edgar Schmiedeler, O.S.B.*

Month by Month with the N. C. W. C.

Msgr. John R. Hagan Named Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland

Through the designation by the Holy Father of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John R. Hagan, diocesan superintendent of schools and director of Sisters College in the Diocese of Cleveland, to be Titular Bishop of Limata and Auxiliary to Bishop Edward F. Hoban of Cleveland, the Hierarchy of the United States is augmented.

Bishop-designate Hagan was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1890 and educated at St. Ignatius College, Cleveland, and at the North American College in Rome, Italy, in which city he was ordained in 1914. He took up special studies at the Catholic University of America and at the Academy of Pedagogy in Bonn, Germany. He served in pastoral work in Cleveland and in Bedford, Ohio, and has given courses in education at St. Mary's Seminary and at the Sisters College in Cleveland, and also at the Catholic University. Since 1923 he has served as superintendent of schools in the Diocese of Cleveland and in 1928 became director of Sisters College in Cleveland.

The best wishes and prayers of the readers of CATHOLIC ACTION go to Bishop-designate Hagan in his new responsibilities.

Cardinal Griffin of Westminster Guest at N.C.W.C. Headquarters

During the past month the staff of N.C.W.C. had the honor and pleasure of a visit from His Eminence Bernard Cardinal Griffin, the Archbishop of Westminster. After visiting a number of the departments of the Conference, the Cardinal greeted each member of the assembled staff individually and spoke to them of his great interest in and appreciation of the work being done by N.C.W.C. His Eminence looked forward to setting up some similar activities in England on his return there.

N.C.W.C. Represented at Hearings on National Health Bill

During May also a committee hearing was held on Senate Bill 1606 which provides for a national health program. Rev. Alphonse M. Schwitalla, S.J., president of the Catholic Hospital Association; Monsignor John O'Grady, secretary, National Conference of Catholic Charities; and Rev. R. A. McGowan, director of the Social Action Department, N.C.W.C., appeared before the Committee in protest of the Bill. A basic principle in the Catholic testimony given is that Government has the right to compel citizens to take care of their health but it must allow a wide margin of freedom in discharging this obligation.

Anniversary Booklet Records Catholic War Work

Five years of outstanding wartime service to God and country is described in a special issue of "NCCS," monthly publication of the National Catholic Community Service, member agency U.S.O., commemorating the N.C.C.S. fifth anniversary.

The N.C.C.S. magazine, which develops the theme, "Five Years of Achievement," is dedicated to the 700,000 loyal N.C.C.S. volunteers whose conscientious devotion of time and effort made possible the successful fulfillment of the N.C.C.S. program during the past five years.

In a special message contained in the magazine, His Eminence, Samuel Cardinal Stritch, chairman of the N.C.C.S. Board of Trustees, pays tribute to the N.C.C.S. organization for the material and spiritual assistance that it has extended to men and women in the armed forces, to those working under abnormal conditions in war-production industries, and to the families of both groups. Cardinal Stritch urges continued service to the returning veterans in order that they might reestablish themselves readily in normal civilian life.

CATHOLIC ACTION—MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

"We have grouped together, under the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the various agencies by which the cause of religion is furthered. Each of these, continuing its own special work in its chosen field, will now derive additional support through general cooperation."
—From the 1919 Pastoral Letter of the Archbishops and Bishops of the U. S.

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Opinions expressed in articles published in this magazine are to be regarded as those of the respective contributors. They do not necessarily carry with them the formal approval of the Administrative Board, National Catholic Welfare Conference.

NATIONAL COUNCIL CATHOLIC WOMEN

A New Diocesan Council—Gifts —Council Conventions—With Our Nationals—An Aspect of British Catholic Action

THE "OLD DOMINION" AND A NEW DIOCESAN COUNCIL

THE Virginia Chamber of Commerce has a slogan which runs somewhat like this: "The Old Dominion Has New Ideas." On Low Sunday this year, April 28, this slogan came true in Richmond. There was a new thing established in the Old Dominion that day, the Richmond Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, the seventy-fifth associating itself with the National Council of Catholic Women.

At the request of His Excellency, the Most Reverend Peter L. Ireton, Bishop of Richmond, deanery meetings were held on each of the Sundays during Lent, with the exception of Passiontide, at which Deanery Councils were set up. Over three-fourths of the parish organizations sent representatives to these meetings, as well as the majority of the inter-parochial organizations. The plan of the Bishop was outlined by the Spiritual Moderator appointed for the Diocesan Council, the Very Rev. Edward L. Stephens, of Alexandria. The nature and objectives of the N.C.C.W. federation were explained to the women by Miss Margaret M. Kelly, field secretary of the National Council, who assisted Bishop Ireton and Father Stephens in the work of organization.

Each of the fifty-four parish and the six inter-parochial units presently constituting the Diocesan Council sent delegates to the final organization meeting in Richmond, and the K. of C. council chamber, in the McGill Union building, was crowded. Women from every part of the widespread diocese happily took the opportunity provided to meet one another, and to draw inspiration and strength from the knowledge of united interest in the unifying medium of the D.C.C.W. Bishop Ireton expressed his great pleasure in the successful achievement of the Council organization, and urged the delegates to arouse in their groups and societies a vivid awareness of the necessity in our times for an informed and activated Catholic womanhood, knowing the mind of Christ and His Church, and radiating the dynamic influence of Christian principles by their action and example in personal living, in the family, in the parish and—he specially stressed—in the community. He quoted the recent words of the Holy Father regarding the laity, that they are "in the front line of the Church's life," and that they must have "an ever clearer sense not only of belonging to the Church, but of being the Church." The fields of action delegated to the Diocesan Council for its beginning program are, His Excellency pointed out, those of family and parent education, of the promotion of vocations, and of social action including civic participation and attention to legislation. Father Stephens addressed to the women a stirring reminder that the foundation of all Catholic Action is a personal spirituality marked by sincerity, intelligence, and perseverance. Miss Ruth Craven, executive secretary of the N.C.C.W., took as her topic "Catholic Women in the World Today," and urged her hearers not merely to "hold the line" of Catholic standards against the encroachments of modern paganism, but "to march forward in a direct offensive against those forces destructive of Christian living." Bishop Ireton appointed as officers for the D.C.C.W., Miss Margaret Haskell, of Richmond, president; Mrs. Otto Wells, of Norfolk, treasurer; and Mrs. Louis Robert, of Alexandria, secretary.

At the meeting, a message from the National President, Mrs. Thomas G. Garrison, expressed the cordial welcome of the N.C.C.W. to its newest diocesan council.

GIFTS IN THE NAME OF MARY

LAST year little children held out empty, helpless hands. Great, beseeching eyes spoke to the mother heart of Catholic women throughout our land. Generously they answered. N.C.C.W. affiliates welcomed this opportunity to give of their abundance that War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. might aid the suffering children of war-stricken countries and the Nuns who were sacrificing themselves in their care.

Now, War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. sends N.C.C.W. sincere expressions of gratitude received from overseas. Madame Rosalie Zoltowska, Gniezno, Poland: "The last ten days I had a lot to do with distribution of clothing which Caritas

received from America for Gniezno parishes. Our parish received five bales of excellent clothing . . . everything not only in very good condition, but very pretty. So great was the joy of mothers who can now clothe their children, and also receive some things for themselves. Tell everyone over there that we will never be able to express our gratefulness to the Catholic women of America for these gifts." Rev. J. van Hussen, diocesan director, Netherlands Bishops Relief: "We are very thankful to the National Council of Catholic Women for the splendid work by which many mothers here have been helped in their difficulties. We would ask you to thank this Council in the name of the Dutch women." Canon Jan Belpaire, Brussels, Belgium: "We are grateful for the shipment of clothing from the Catholic Women's Association. We will send to the press the communique on the collection of provisions in the 15,000 parishes of the United States. If we do not make numerous press releases in Belgium, it is in order not to stir up obstacles on the part of the government, but we possess a voluminous record of proofs of gratitude from the Belgian people testifying to their moving enthusiasm for the gesture of Catholic Americans."

Such messages poignantly express the tragic need of these suffering people, surely an incentive to continued and intensified work. Our National President has asked that during the month of May N.C.C.W. affiliates rededicate their efforts for them to our Blessed Mother. Councils are responding; more reprints of the War Relief appeal "Children in Need" and more labels for shipments are being ordered. The Los Angeles A.C.C.W. has set a goal of 10,000 pounds of clothing to be gathered by May 31, each affiliated organization to provide approximately 200 garments. An affiliate of the Lincoln D.C.C.W. sends word: "Since September we have collected and shipped 2,200 pounds of clothing. Most of us are farm women and cannot spend an entire day away from our homes in the busy season. However, we are collecting feed sacks, and asking people to place a box in their homes and into it put all they can spare so we will have something to work with this fall. We realize this work will be needed for a long time and intend to keep doing all we can with material we can obtain."

The help of *every* Catholic women's organization is needed. Has your pledge been made to Mary? Will your gifts in her name be shipped to her other children?

COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CALL OF HOLY FATHER

WHEN the Most Rev. John F. Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne and Episcopal Chairman of the Lay Organizations Department, N.C.W.C., reminded the members of his Diocesan Council of Catholic Women of the Holy Father's call to women to go into public life and spiritualize it, he was answered not only by his own Council but by diocesan units of N.C.C.W. everywhere. In ever increasing numbers and with greatly augmented attendance, diocesan councils are meeting in conventions to answer the call of the Holy Father in planning their activities for the coming year.

Fort Wayne . . . These words of Bishop Noll were spoken at a joint meeting of the Ft. Wayne D.C.C.W. and D.C.C.N., held May 5-6, the 13th annual convention of the Council of Catholic Women and the convention of the recently organized Ft. Wayne Council of Catholic Nurses. The meeting opened with Pontifical High Mass, celebrated by Bishop Noll. With Mrs. William F. Black, president, presiding, the sessions of the D.C.C.W. convention centered around the theme, "Every Woman an Apostle for Christ". The theme of the D.C.C.N. meeting was "The Catholic Nurse in a Changing World". His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Tien, Vicar Apostolic of Tsing-Tao, China, guest and speaker at the banquet, thanked Bishop Noll for the contribution of $1000 presented to him. Mrs. Thomas G. Garrison, president, N.C.C.W., extended the greetings of the National Council. Mrs. J. B. Vurpillat, of Huntington, was elected President of the D.C.C.W. and Miss Mary Vurpillat, of South Bend, President of the Nurses' Council.

Natchez . . . With its convention scheduled for the Fall, the Natchez D.C.C.W. held an open Board meeting on April 7, attended by approximately 100 women. The Most Rev. Richard O. Gerow, Bishop of Natchez, celebrated the Mass opening the meeting. He spoke later on the need during the coming year of work in behalf of Catholic home and community life, of aid to returning servicemen and G.I. brides, and of cooperation in war relief work. Miss Margaret Pitchford, president, presided at the sessions.

Monterey-Fresno . . . "Youth and Its Problems" was the theme of the 14th annual convention of the Monterey-Fresno D.C.C.W., held April 28-29, at which Mrs. Margaret Stanley was elected President, succeeding Miss Genevieve Bradley. The Most Rev. Philip G. Scher, Bishop of Monterey-Fresno, called to the minds of parents the need of priestly vocations to care for the phenomenal growth of the Catholic population in the Diocese. Rev. Sylvano Baquedano, of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Bakersfield, re-

quested the women to assist Mexican boys and girls wherever the need arose. Mrs. J. Shelby Spurck, national director from the Province of Los Angeles, pleaded for more Catholic Action, "for work for everyone—everywhere". Council cooperation in war relief was shown by donations at the convention of shoes for needy women and children in war-ravaged lands.

St. Louis . . . The 800 women attending the St. Louis D.C.C.W. annual convention, held May 7-8, pledged their unqualified loyalty and devotion to God and country, and, following the admonition of the Holy Father, resolved to "endeavor whenever the opportunity presents, to take an active part in civic programs." The address of Frank P. Motherday, St. Louis Catholic attorney, on "Woman and the Government," was one of three luncheon talks on the general subject of woman in present world affairs. Other speakers were Rev. William F. Mullally, pastor of the Church of the Magdalen, St. Louis, on "Women and Leadership," and Miss Margaret C. Hughes, third vice-president, N.C.C.W., on "Women and the Modern World." Mrs. George A. McCalpin was elected to succeed Mrs. William J. Walsh as President.

St. Augustine . . . The Right Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. McDonough, chancellor of the Diocese of St. Augustine, in delivering the sermon at the Mass opening the 16th annual convention of the St. Augustine D.C.C.W., May 7-8, spoke on the theme of the convention, "The Catholic Home—Arsenal of Peace." At the close of the Mass, he presented the *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* medal to Mrs. J. W. McCollum, past president of N.C.C.W. Mrs. McCollum received greetings upon this occasion from the Most Rev. Joseph P. Hurley, Bishop of St. Augustine, who is now serving as Papal Regent ad Interim in the Apostolic Nunciature in Belgrade, Jugoslavia. In giving the history of the St. Augustine D.C.C.W., the Right Rev. Msgr. P. J. McGill, director of the Council, paid tribute to Mrs. McCollum, as former Diocesan and National President, and to Mrs. R. S. Clark, the first Diocesan President. Other speakers included Rev. Thomas Verner Moore, O.S.B., "The Child Develops Emotionally"; Rev. Timothy J. Mulvey, O.M.I., "The Family and the Radio," and Miss Ruth Craven, executive secretary, N.C.C.W., "Spheres of Woman's Influence." Mrs. Thomas B. Grady, president, is succeeded in office by Mrs. Leo LaBelle, elected at the convention.

WITH OUR NATIONALS

Daughters of Isabella: The National Circle, D. of I., will convene in National Convention in Milwaukee, Wis., August 11-17. The National Board of Direction will meet on Sunday, August 11, and on Monday, August 12, a special Youth Session will be held in the afternoon, with a reception to the National Officers and Parade of the States being held that evening. The convention will officially open on Tuesday morning, with a Pontifical Mass celebrated by The Most Reverend Moses E. Kiley, S.T.D., in St. John's Cathedral. The D. of I. has grown tremendously since its last convention in 1941, so the attendance at this coming convention will be well over one thousand.

Christ Child Society: The first national convention of the Christ Child Society held since 1941 took place in Washington, D. C., May 2, with delegates from 37 chapters and 34 cities attending. In a letter from the Most Reverend Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, read by the Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore and Washington, the Most Reverend Laurence J. Shehan, His Excellency imparted the Holy Father's Apostolic Benediction to the founder and all the members of the Society. Speaking at the meeting, Bishop Shehan said the problem of juvenile delinquency with which the Society must often deal is really part of a much greater problem—a general drifting from fixed moral principles. The cure for juvenile delinquency, as well as for the world's muddled mind, is a return to God and religion. In her welcoming address, Miss Mary V. Merrick, president, said that "the motive and spirit of the Christ Child Society is a personal love of Christ expressing itself in personal love for children regardless of race, sex, or belief. So long as the Society is energized by such motives it will continue to grow and is destined to live." Miss Merrick was reelected president.

National Council of Catholic Nurses: With the theme, "The Catholic Nurse in a Changing World," the N.C.C.N. held its Third Biennial Convention, on May 24, 25, and 26, in Toledo. In considering the "unchanging moral principles that must be adapted to the changing world," sessions held covered such subjects as: "The Future of Nursing from a Professional Point of View"; "Implications for the Catholic Nurse in a Changing World"; "Organization and Development of Diocesan Council"; and "The Changing Trend in Medicine and What It Means to the Nurse." The banquet address treated "A Catholic Interpretation of Current World Trends" and at the luncheon on Sunday which followed the Pontifical Mass, a talk was given on "Our Responsibilities for Promotion of Nursing in Latin America."

AN ASPECT OF BRITISH CATHOLIC ACTION

LADY GERALDINE RENDEL, O.B.E.

Lady Geraldine Rendel, O.B.E., is the official representative of British Catholic Welfare for the Services on the British War Office Council of Voluntary War Work, and chairman of the Huts and Canteens Committee of the British Catholic Women's League. While in this country on a short visit, she spoke at the National Catholic School of Social Service, at the invitation of the National Council of Catholic Women. It is a pleasure to bring you this brief message from Lady Rendel concerning the relief work of British Catholics for the suffering people of Europe.

I THINK you may be interested to hear something of the special work which Catholics in Great Britain are doing for the relief of distress in Europe.

In 1942, a Council of British Societies for Relief Abroad (known as C.O.B.S.R.A.) was formed by the British Government to coordinate the work of the Voluntary Organizations for Relief and bring their activities within the framework of U.N.R.R.A.

The Catholic Committee for Relief Abroad was thereupon set up under the direction of His Eminence, Cardinal Griffin, and became the National Catholic Organization on C.O.B.S.R.A. It embraced twenty-five Catholic societies, including eight women's organizations: the Catholic Women's League, the Ladies of Charity, Catholic Action Girls' Organization, Catholic Nurses' Guild, the Grail, the Legion of Mary, Union of Catholic Mothers, and the British Federation of Notre Dame de Namur Associations.

The C.C.R.A. very soon proved that Catholics had a special part to play in relief work. When the first teams arrived in Italy they found there was much to be done for which as Catholics they were specially fitted. Material relief alone is not enough, and rehabilitation cannot be achieved merely by gifts in kind. To Catholic populations relief that comes to them in the familiar setting of their Faith has an additional message of comfort and reassurance. It reminds them that across the divisions and enmities bred by war, there exists the great family of the faithful, and that in every land there are Catholics listening to the exhortations of the Holy Father, as he shows them by example and teaching the only path by which sinful and suffering humanity can find its way through present darkness and misery.

Nearly a year after the war in Europe has ended, the C.C.R.A. finds tasks mounting to its hands. In Italy five refugee camps with 15,000 refugees, in the Pontine Marshes, which the Germans flooded before they left the country, were given to their care.

C.C.R.A. Mobile Hospital Teams worked at Maastricht in Holland tending former inmates of Dachau and Belsen Concentration Camps, who were too ill to be repatriated.

In Germany a Relief Unit has charge, under the local Military Government, of the Displaced Persons Camps in the Kreis of Marienburg, in which 62 per cent of the inmates are Poles. And a Displaced Persons Camp in Kiel, also largely Polish, is being served.

In the Austrian mountain village of Scheifling our teams are helping to run a hospital for 300 under-nourished Austrian children. And sorely needed clothing is also being provided for them.

Despite the severe clothes rationing in England, large quantities of excellent used clothing have been given for the distressed people of Europe. Five tons have been sent to Italy and seven to Northwest Europe.

The influence of Catholic workers in the relief field is out of all proportion to their numbers. A great tribute to their work was paid by Major General Lindsay, British Red Cross Commissioner for Northwest Europe, recently, when he said: "You have done more than physical healing; you have achieved a great spiritual work as well."

More and more support has been coming from Catholics in England, led by many of the Bishops, as the need has come home to them for relief work in Europe which shall also be a message of Christian solidarity.

In conclusion may I be allowed to express the great pleasure and inspiration which it has been to me to meet American Catholics and to learn more about their Catholic Action. This has been my first visit to America, but I greatly hope it will not be my last; and that if I do return I shall be able to travel more widely in this great and fascinating country.

CONGRATULATIONS

THE N.C.C.W. learned with great pleasure of the selection by the National Catholic Conference on Family Life of Mrs. Joy Seth Hurd, president of the Cleveland D.C.C.W., as Catholic Mother of 1946. Announcement of the award, made annually on the Feast of St. Monica, came from Miss Mary Callahan of Notre Dame College, Cleveland, president of the Family Life Conference, which is affiliated with the Family Life Bureau, National Catholic Welfare Conference.

NATIONAL COUNCIL CATHOLIC MEN

Annual Convention—Chosen Men—The Living Wage—Radio Schedule—Indecent Literature Doomed—Wardens

JOHN W. BABCOCK RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF N.C.C.M.

MR. JOHN W. BABCOCK, prominent Detroit lawyer and former State Deputy of the Knights of Columbus of Michigan, was re-elected president of the National Council of Catholic Men at its Annual Convention held at the headquarters of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in Washington, D. C., on April 27 and 28. The Most Rev. John F. Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne and episcopal chairman of the Department of Lay Organizations, N.C.W.C.; and the Most Rev. Emmet M. Walsh, Bishop of Charleston and assistant episcopal chairman, attended the meetings.

Other officers and directors elected for the coming year include Emmet A. Blaes, attorney of Wichita, Kans., vice president; Thomas E. Sly, president of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Men of Belleville, Ill., re-elected secretary; Stewart Lynch, federal district attorney of Wilmington, Del., and active Knight of Columbus and Holy Name member, treasurer; and the Honorable Norman A. O'Brien, former state senator from Rochester, N. Y., general counsel.

The directors who were elected are, in addition to the officers, Henry J. Block, Toledo, Ohio; Daniel Francis Connell, Pueblo, Colo.; Joseph B. Laucka, American Catholic Lithuanian Federation, Brooklyn, N. Y.; James H. McCaffrey, Dallas, Texas; Daniel E. Morrissey, National Catholic Laymen's Retreat Conference, Chicago, Ill.; John M. Nolan, Paterson, N. J.; and Julius C. Rupp, Gary, Ind.

Ex officio directors are Bishop Noll; Bishop Walsh; Right Rev. Msgr. Howard J. Carroll, general secretary, N.C.W.C.; and Wilbert J. O'Neill, past president.

Monsignor Carroll described the work and aims of the N.C.W.C.; and Rev. George G. Higgins, assistant director of the Social Action Department of N.C.W.C., spoke on institutes for industrial relations.

A resolution sent to His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, stated: "The National Council of Catholic Men in convention assembled April 27, 1946, send respectful greetings to Your Holiness, give assurance of their homage and filial devotion and of their desire to unite in Catholic Action with the mind of the Church and humbly ask for your blessing upon their endeavors."

Another resolution, which was sent to the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, was expressed as follows:

"The National Council of Catholic Men assembled in Annual Meeting expresses to the Most Reverend Members of the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference our thanks and appreciation for having been given the opportunity of service to the Conference through the affiliation of the Council with the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

"We take this occasion to assure you of our filial affection and devotion to the duty and responsibility which are assumed in this work of Catholic Action.

"We pledge to and assure the Board of our continued support to the program of their great apostolic work, particularly during these troublesome times when a true appreciation of Our Creator and the privilege of practicing our Holy Faith are so necessary."

In addition to the officers and directors, members who attended the meeting were William H. Collins, Washington, D. C.; Paul D. Williams, Richmond, Va.; Thomas Cannon, Catholic Order of Foresters, Chicago, Ill.; Leonard Simutis,

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Observers in attendance were Very Rev. Msgr. Anthony F. Drozd, San Antonio; and Rev. Lawrence J. Cavanaugh, Detroit.

CHOSEN MEN: Part II of a Series

"It is necessary . . . that the clergy should seek out chosen men . . . to work side by side with them. . . ." (Pope Pius XI).

"WE have the truth—and *know* we have it."

A learned priest was talking to a small group in his study. "When people are not too sure of themselves," he mused, "they often have to reassure themselves by shouting that they are right and by trying to force others to believe as they do. Their insistence that they are right is a sign of insecurity.

"The reason why we ordinarily aren't so belligerent is that we have the truth—and *know* we have it.

"In a way, therefore, our feeling of security puts us at a disadvantage. Others may take our confident silence to mean that we don't care too much—or haven't anything to say."

Although we should retain our confidence and decorum, we must overcome our silence, or untruth will prevail over truth.

The evil forces of paganism, communism, materialism, agnosticism, indifferentism, and atheism creep in upon us unawares, unnoticed under the attractive masks of pleasant conversation, interesting novels, or promises of diamonds for everyone. Our enemies approach a little here and little there —reshaping the hearts and thoughts of men—so stealthily that only the alert are aware of their progress.

The war is universal, unending. Priests cannot win it alone. In the words of Pius XI, "the clergy is quite insufficient to cope with the needs of our times. This is so, either because in certain places it is not numerous enough; or because many sorts of persons, refractory to its beneficent influence, remain strangers to the counsels and precepts of the gospel teaching."

With these remarks, he calls upon lay men to take up arms: "Hence it is necessary that all men be apostles; it is necessary that the Catholic laity do not stand idle, but be united with the ecclesiastical hierarchy and ready to obey its orders; that they take their share of the holy welfare."

* * *

Herein lies the secret, as indicated in these columns last month, of making the priest, in effect, ten, twenty, or even five hundred persons. Herein lies the secret of a powerful army of chosen men, an army of thousands who may labor for the Lord in small groups but also with the unity and strength of national affiliation.

The use of the "Auxiliary Apostolate" of the laity to supplement the work of priests is as old as the Church. In his letter to the Romans St. Paul said, "Greet Prisca and Aquila, my helpers in Christ Jesus . . . Greet Mary, Urbanus, Tryphaena, Tryphosa and Persis who labor in the Lord."

Though the principle itself is not new, the present-day conception of Catholic Action is modern in its form of organization as it is in its technical name.

Pope Pius XI in 1931 pointed out the necessity for "new forms of the Christian Apostolate" and stated that Catholic Action has proved to be the best form for the needs of the times: "The needs of the present day demand that, according to the variations of morals and of customs, the clergy and laity should opportunely create new forms of the Christian Apostolate. That is why we gladly approve of Catholic Action in the form which you have given to it from the beginning. Catholic Action is the form of the Apostolate that corresponds best to the needs of the times; this we have proved from the daily practical experience of the vast ministry that we have for some time been exercising."

The Holy Father considered Catholic Action so vital that he said: "It is your chief duty, Venerable Brethren, and that of your clergy, to seek diligently, to select prudently, and to train fittingly these lay apostles."

* * *

The need is clear. Papal approval—and even Papal exhortation—is clear. But a question remains: "Exactly how can Catholic Action be established in *this* parish?"

In one brief sentence Cardinal Pizzardo, president of the Central Catholic Action Office in Rome, indicated the basic starting place. On September 15, 1930, he said that "men's associations are the solid backbone of Catholic Action."

Here, then, is the beginning of an answer to our question. Here we have the basis for Catholic Action as explained in the N.C.C.M. booklets and in this series of articles. Here is where we can begin, in a practical way, to fulfill the exhortations of the Popes to meet the needs of today.

THE LIVING WAGE

This article is the second part of "Fundamentals of Social Justice," a lecture given by Paul Weber at the Labor Institute of the Detroit A.C.T.U. (Association of Catholic Trade Unionists). Mr. Weber is editor of "The Wage Earner," published weekly as the official organ of the Detroit A.C.T.U., which is under the patronage of Cardinal Mooney. The A.C.T.U. is one of the federates of the Detroit Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Men, which is affiliated with N.C.C.M.

AT THE bottom of all of our thinking on the subject of a wage earner lies the principle of the right to a living wage. The Catholic teaching is that, since the wage earner has a duty to support himself and those dependent upon him, he has the corresponding right to receive from society sufficient income for his labor to fulfill the duty.

Pope Leo XIII states it thus: "The preservation of life is the bounden duty of each and all, and to fail therein is a crime. It follows that each one has a right to procure what is required in order to live; and the poor can procure it in no other way than by work and wages."

Granting that the free negotiation of wage rates should be preserved, Leo XIII declared that, nevertheless, there is a floor under all wages, a moral floor. The worker does not have the right to accept less than enough to support himself and his family or dependents in reasonable comfort.

"There is a dictate of nature more imperious and more ancient," said the Pope, "than any bargain between man and man, that the remuneration must be enough to support the wage earner in reasonable and frugal comfort. If through necessity or fear of a worse evil, the workman accepts harder conditions because an employer or contractor will give him no better, he is the victim of force and injustice."

Thus it is very clear that every worker has a natural right to sufficient wages to enable him to support himself and his family. This sufficiency is what we call in the strictest sense the living wage. It can be figured out in dollars and cents for any given economic circumstance. Though we shall not attempt to do that now, it can be said that any wage under approximately fifty dollars per week for a man with an average family of four is a substandard wage in the meaning of the Papal Encyclicals.

So much for the living wage as it is dictated by the personal rights of the worker and his family. Pope Leo XIII wrote at a time when the problem of the world was a problem of scarcity. In Europe of 1890, the economy was not capable of producing enough consumer goods for everyone to have a sufficiency. The problem was one of production. Today in America, and perhaps in the world, we have an economic system capable of producing more than enough for all. The problem is no longer one of production but of distribution.

Consequently, a new factor enters into our principle of the living wage. That factor is the common welfare. Unless the income of the workers is sufficient to enable them to buy their share of the goods they make, factories cannot continue to operate, layoffs occur, and we have what is called a depression.

So it is necessary under these conditions of "want in the midst of plenty" to carry the principle of the living wage farther. It is necessary to lay it down as a basic axiom that the worker must receive not only enough for the support of himself and his family, but also enough to provide him with the purchasing power to keep the economic machine operating.

This means, in short, that for "the common good," every citizen must receive for his work his proportionate share of the total wealth which the economy is able to produce. This requirement, which derives from the common good—that is, the good of society as a whole—must be added to the requirement which derives from the personal dignity of the individual worker.

In the broad view, then, we can say that the wage earner has a right to a wage which represents his proportionate share of the productive capacity of the nation. Viewed in this light, it is clear that we are very far from a living wage and that we must continue to fight for wages far in excess of the amount which is necessary for the support of the worker. It is the failure of our economic system to give its wage earners a living wage in this broad sense that causes the recurrence of depressions, of periods of mass unemployment, which are the curse of our times.

This view of the living wage in the light of the common good was clearly expressed by Pope Pius XI, who wrote forty years after Leo XIII. The common good, said Pius XI, "demands that by union of effort such a scale of wages be set up, if possible, as to offer to the greatest number opportunities of employment and of securing for themselves suitable means of livelihood."

"A reasonable relationship between wages and prices is the ideal," the Pope said. "For then only will the economic and social organism be soundly established and attain its end, when it secures for all and each those goods which the wealth and resources of nature, technical achievement, and the social constitution of economic affairs can give."

The Christian concept of wages, as we have here outlined it, can best be understood if you will cease to regard wages as a price paid for your labor,

nd begin to regard wages as a share in the fruits f the national economy.

Obviously, it is neither necessary nor desirable hat everyone's share should be the same, since ome contribute more important work than others nd some have greater needs than others. But it vill be readily seen that the share must be suffi-ient so that with the money received, a propor-ionate and just share of the products of the na-ional economy can be purchased.

If the shares given to the nation's wage earners lo not equal their proportionate parts of the vealth produced, it will obviously not be long efore they are unable to purchase the products hey make.

WARDENS

THE siren wailed its shrill tone. Soon, in every neighborhood, air-raid wardens were patrolling the streets. The possibility of a visit by nemy planes had brought from their homes nu-nerous volunteers trained to assist in emergencies.

The planes of our enemies are grounded. But constant state of emergency of another war con-inues, a war which is the more insidious because it s aimed not at our bodies but at our souls and aith, because among our enemies are some who eem to be our friends, and because the warfare s not open but hidden, indirect, subtle.

In this unending war for survival, we too have igilant wardens.

When organized as recommended by the N.C.C.M. *Manual of Instructions: Catholic Ac-ion for Men,* every Board of Directors of Parish Councils of Catholic Men includes a representa-ive of the Block Wardens. Each Block Warden n turn represents a small area of the Parish—one Warden for each block, rural precinct or other ubdivision.

The purpose of the Block Warden is to bring he work of the Council of Men to his own block r district and to make it effective there. So that e may know the people of his area well and be more readily accepted by them, he is chosen from the area he represents.

Wardens have been of noteworthy assistance to the parish priest as well as to the Parish Council of Catholic Men. They call upon neighbors to encourage them to attend Holy Name Communion Masses, Holy Hours, and retreats, and otherwise to participate in the spiritual life and services of the parish. They inform the pastor whenever a Catholic family moves into or out of their respective blocks, thus enabling their parish representative to help the pastor maintain an accurate census of the parish. To non-Catholics they distribute—directly or by mail—literature such as the N.C.C.M. radio circulars and the Narbeth articles of Catholic information. To Catholics in their areas they distribute parish collection envelopes or other materials according to the wishes of the pastor.

Each member of the Board of Directors is usually responsible for one activity. To these directors the Block Warden system is of immeasurable value, for through it they can make the activity effective in every part of the parish.

Thus the Block Warden helps to strengthen our forces and to ward off our enemies by serving in his strategic position as an effective and practical part of the over-all plan of Catholic Action.

INDECENT LITERATURE DOOMED

Parish representatives of N.O.D.L. (National Organization for Decent Literature) recently established a program for ridding San Antonio of objectionable magazines. The plan consists of a monthly check of newsstands, reports to the N.C.C.M.-affiliated Catholic Action Council of Men headquarters of the San Antonio district, and conferences with the magazine-distribution agencies concerned.

In addition, parish bulletins will include classifications of motion pictures being shown in downtown, neighborhood, and suburban theaters.

One objective of the National Council of Catholic Men is to encourage N.O.D.L. activities.

RADIO SCHEDULE

THE HOUR OF FAITH (ABC Network)
Every Sunday, 10:30 a.m., E.S.T.
JUNE 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Rev. Hugh Calkins, O.S.M., of Chicago, well-known writer, lecturer, and outstanding preacher in the Sorrowful Mother Novena, will give a series of five talks.

Music for the Hour of Faith is furnished by violin, harp and organ, together with a male quartet.

THE CATHOLIC HOUR (NBC Network)
Every Sunday, 5:00 p.m., E.S.T.
JUNE 2, 9, 16

Mr. Fulton Oursler, an editor of *Readers' Digest,* will inaugurate a series of talks generally entitled "The Road Ahead."

JUNE 23, 30

Mr. G. Howland Shaw, former Assistant Secretary of State, will continue the series of talks.

Music for the Catholic Hour is furnished by outstanding Church and Seminary guest choirs from various parts of the country.

LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING THE CHURCH

Equal Protection For School Childern

FREE transportation of children attending parochial schools is a "public purpose," and, therefore, statutes in aid of such transportation do not offend constitutional provisions militating against the use of public funds for private purposes.

This proposition is rapidly gaining approval, the latest decision on the subject being that of *Bowker* v. *Baker*. In this case, the California District Court of Appeals for the Fourth District upheld the constitutionality of the State statute which permits children attending parochial schools to ride on public school buses provided that there is room and that the buses do not have to deviate from their regular route. In so holding, the Court, after discussing the manner in which school bus transportation promoted the safety of the children and after averting to the fact that the complexities of our modern life are such that public expenditures invariably result in incidental benefits to individuals, stated that

> "In view of the broad police powers of the State to promote the educational welfare and safety of its citizens, including little children, of the broad mandate to the legislature found in Section 1, Article IX of the Constitution, of the fact that the direct benefit of the legislation authorizing the transportation of pupils attending private schools flows to the children in providing for their safety and promoting their education, with only an indirect benefit to the private parochial school, and in view of the rule that requires us to resolve any doubt in favor of the constitutionality of a challenged act of the legislature, we conclude that the legislation is constitutional and is not subject to the attack made here."

Although no Court has ever formulated a definition of the term "public purpose," it is generally recognized that legislation designed to promote the general safety, health, morals and welfare of the people is a public function of Government, and, therefore, monies disbursed for such purposes are expended for a public purpose. This proposition is quite obvious, yet there is a widespread reluctance to accept it when the interest of parochial school children is at stake. The California Court has squarely faced all of the issues and has refused to place a judicial barrier in the path of the desire of the State of California to extend equal protection to parochial as well as public school children.

Recognizing the fact that children attending parochial schools are subject to the same highway hazards that prompted the adoption of school bus transportation statutes for children attending public schools, the Court observed that:

> "The evidence in this case shows that the parochial school children had to cross railroad tracks and travel on busy highways in going to and returning from school."

Such a statement may be truthfully made in all cases involving school bus transportation, and is sufficient in itself to bring the statute within the scope of the public purpose doctrine.

Regardless of these facts, some Courts, on the basis of technicality, persist in setting aside the manifest will of the people, thereby depriving children attending private and parochial schools of the protection which the State owes them. Frequently, the Courts will state that the statute is unconstitutional because a private or parochial school is indirectly benefited. On this point, Rottschaefer in his recent work on constitutional law states that:

> "The general welfare is assumed to be promoted through education. The benefits flow from the fact that the public is provided therewith regardless of the agency through which it is furnished."

To hold otherwise would penalize children because of the nature of the institution which their parents in the exercise of their constitutional prerogatives have chosen as the most suitable school. The Supreme Court, in the Oregon school case, has confirmed this right of election and has expanded on it in the case of *Cochrane* v. *Louisiana State Board of Education;* wherein, the Court declared that textbooks could be constitutionally furnished to children attending parochial schools.

The California Court has, in its decision, recognized the full implications of the above-mentioned decisions by the U. S. Supreme Court and has, thereby, taken a long step forward in applying to local conditions the principles set forth in these cases.

This progressive position of the California Court will, undoubtedly, result in the receipt of manifold benefits by the State in the form of a healthy and educated citizenry.—*By George E. Reed.*

NOTE: *Since this article was written, the time for appeal to the highest Court in California has elapsed. Accordingly, the decision rendered by the District Court of Appeals becomes the final authority on the question of the constitutionality of the California school bus transportatino statute.*

THE BOOK SHELF

Newman Bookshop, Westminster, Md.: *Kyrie Eleison—*Two Hundred Litanies—Collected by Benjamin Francis Musser. Pp. xxxv and 300.)

To those who are familiar with only a few of the standard litanies, Mr. Musser's compilation will bring a fresh appreciation of the richness of devotional life within the Church, the Mystical Body of Christ.

Newman Bookshop, Westminster, Md.: *The Third Day,* Arnold Lunn. (Pp. xlii and 173.)

A brilliant apologetical work in defense of the Resurrection, the cardinal dogma of Christianity. Mr. Lunn, who has previously established himself as one of the best of our lay theologians, popularizes and ties together in convincing harmony several separate theological treatises: the evidence for, and the philosophical defense of miracles; the genuinity of the Gospel; the fallacies of Modernism, etc. To a thorough grasp of scholastic philosophy and theology Mr. Lunn unites a detailed understanding of recent biblical and archeological discoveries and an attractive English style. The combined result is modern apologetics at its best.

Radio Replies Press, St. Paul, Minn.: *What Say You?,* David Goldstein, LL.D. (Pp. xxxii and 446.)

The fruit of years of experience in street preaching, the present book is a compilation of typical questions which are asked by the man in the street about religion in general and about the Catholic religion in particular. Mr. Goldstein's answers are courteous (and sometimes even humorous), graphic, and always orthodox. The book will be of interest to any Catholic who wants to sharpen his knowledge of the Faith and of particular interest to those who are preparing to preach Christ and Christ crucified on the street corners of the United States.

Morehouse-Gorham Co., New York, N. Y.: *Mother of Carmel,* E. Allison Peers. (Pp. xi and 216.)

A brief biography of St. Teresa of Avila by the British scholar who has literally devoted his life to a study of the great Spanish mystics. Few men are better qualified to tell the story of the Mother of Carmel and few could bring to the writing of that story such loving understanding of its subject.

Harper & Brothers, New York, N. Y.: *The War on Malnutrition and Poverty,* J. Murray Luck.

The role of consumer cooperatives is in eliminating the harmful effects of malnutrition and poverty. Highly recommended.

Radio Replies Press, St. Paul, Minn.: *Clean Oblation,* M. D. Forrest, M.S.C. (Pp. viii and 214.)

A popular, yet soundly scientific, presentation of the theology of the Mass. The book is a reprint of a series of articles which originally appeared in *Emmanuel,* the Official Monthly of the Priests' Eucharistic League for the United States.

Bruce Publishing Co., Milwaukee, Wis.: *God Is Its Founder,* Blakewell Morrison, S.J. (Pp. x and 272.)

A textbook on preparation for Catholic marriage. Intended for college classes, the present book is "a detailed criticism" of an earlier book published by the same author twelve years ago. "But nothing that is solid in the older book has been omitted here. The emphases have been shifted." Useful for the parish priest and for study club leaders as well as for the college teacher.

Bruce Publishing Co., Milwaukee, Wis.: *Mission for Samaritans,* Anna Dengel, M.D. (Pp. x and 121.)

A graphic description by the courageous and ingenious founder of the Medical Mission Sisters of what medical mission work is, what it has done, and what it plans to do. A story to enkindle in the young Catholic women of America that missionary spark which is at once the proof and the glory of our Faith.

Russell Sage Foundation, New York, N. Y.: *American Foundations for Social Work,* Shelby M. Harrison and F. Emerson Andrews. (Pp. 66.)

An indispensable handbook for social workers, the present research work includes a descriptive directory of 505 Foundations plus an introductory study of the history, organization, function, and financing of American foundations for social work.

CALENDAR OF SCHEDULED CATHOLIC MEETINGS AND EVENTS

June, 1946

10-13—Catholic Hospital Association of the United States and Canada—31st annual convention, Milwaukee, Wis.
10-15—Summer School of Catholic Action—Jesuit High School, New Orleans, La.
16-23—Institute on Industry—10th Annual; also, Institute N.C.C.W. Social Action Committee; Washington, D. C.
17-19—Franciscan Educational Conference—27th Annual Meeting, Carey, Ohio.
20-22—Catholic War Veterans—11th Annual National Convention, Newark, N. J.
21-23—Catholic Laymen's Retreat Conference—Eleventh National Meeting, Boston, Mass.

July, 1946

1-6—Summer School of Catholic Action—Morrison Hotel, Chicago, Ill.
2-5—Seminar on Negro Problems—Washington, D. C.
8-11—Catholic Daughters of America—St. Louis, Mo.
9-11—Seminar on Spanish Speaking—Santa Fe, N. Mex.
29-Aug. 3—Summer School of Catholic Action—Our Lady of the Lake College, San Antonio, Texas.

August, 1946

11-17—Daughters of Isabella—National Circle, Milwaukee, Wis.
12-17—Summer School of Catholic Action—Boston College, Boston, Mass.
19-24—Summer School of Catholic Action—Fordham University, New York, N. Y.
20-22—Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus—64th annual meeting, Miami Beach, Fla.
22-25—International Federation of Catholic Alumnae—17th biennial convention, Detroit, Mich.
23-26—National Conference of Catholic Charities—32nd Meeting; and Society of St. Vincent de Paul—Annual Meeting, South Bend, Ind.
26-31—Summer School of Catholic Action—Morrison Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

September, 1946

14-15—National Catholic Evidence Conference—Annual Convention, Cincinnati, Ohio.
16-17—Catholic Conference on Industrial Problems—Regional Meeting, Hartford, Conn.
21-25—National Council Catholic Women—23rd national convention, Kansas City, Mo.

CATHOLICS AND JEWS

A 106 page study of relations between Catholics and Jews by Rev. Gregory Feige and the Religion and Culture Subcommittee of the Catholic Association for International Peace is a recent C.A.I.P. publication now available through the N.C.W.C. Publications Office. The booklet discusses the present condition of Jews in the United States and the world, the fact of anti-Jewish sentiment, the Church's attitude and concern for the Jews, facts on the prejudice of anti-Semitism, the sin of anti-Semitism, religious ties between the Church and the Synagogue, concluding with the need for mutual knowledge and respect, and especially for constructive action.

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NEW N.C.W.C. PAMPHLET SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

A plan recently put into effect by the N.C.W.C. Publications Office enables all interested in the various fields of activity of the Conference to receive automatically new N.C.W.C. publications as issued. This is by means of the N.C.W.C. Pamphlet Subscription Service priced at $2.50 each subscription. Pamphlets, ranging in price from 5c to 35c will be sent as published until the sum is exhausted. Among the subjects of N.C.W.C. pamphlets are the following: *Catholic Action, Industrial Life, Family Life, International Peace, Christian Democracy, Youth Work, Education and Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.*

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SIXTEEN LATE ENCYCLICALS OF POPE PIUS XI

One of the titles by which Pope Pius XI is known is that of the Pope of Great Encyclicals. His teachings *On Christian Marriage, On Reconstructing the Social Order, On Christian Education of Youth, On the Catholic Priesthood, On the Light of Truth, On True Religious Unity* and other subjects shed new light on age-old religious and social themes. The volume *Sixteen Late Encyclicals of Pope Pius XI* contains each of the above mentioned and ten additional encyclicals issued from the year 1926 to the end of his Pontificate. It is a *sine qua non* in the parish library and suitable for placement in public libraries and for personal gifts.

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NEW N.C.W.C. FAMILY LIFE PAMPHLETS

A set of six N.C.W.C. Family Life Bureau Pamphlets published April first makes available a study by pastors entitled *Pastors Look at the Family* (52 pages and cover), as well as addresses delivered at the 1946 National Catholic Conference on Family Life held at the Catholic University of America in February. The latter pamphlets are entitled *Parent Education Through Home and School* (70 pages and cover); *Towards a Better Family Life* (102 pages and cover); *Population Facts and Factors* (45 pages and cover); *America's Challenge—The Broken Home* (12 pages), and *Please—Shelter for My Family* (20 pages). Subjects discussed in the latter group include child training in the home; facts on population trends; family allowances; job security; maternity costs; housing and economic security.

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